

Message Text

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11

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 SCI-06 FEA-02

DRC-01 AECE-00 /169 W

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P 240732Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4876

INFO USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, TECH, PK, IN

SUBJ: FURTHER REACTION TO INDIAN NUCLEAR EXPLOSION

REF: ISLAMABAD 4961, 4886, LAHORE 731

1. IMPLICATIONS OF MAY 18 INDIAN NUCLEAR EXPLOSION CONTINUE
TO DOMINATE NEWS MEDIA AND THINKING OF MOST PAKISTANI CONTACTS
IN THE CAPITAL. MEDIA COVERAGE HAS FOCUSED ON "POLITICAL
COUNTER MASURES" PROMISED BY PRIME MINISTER IN HIS STATEMENT
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MAY 19: MINISTER OF STATE FOR DEFENSE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

AZIZ AHMED'S STATEMENT IN WASHINGTON AND CENTO COMMUNIQUE
REFERENCE TO INDIAN ACTION; FOREIGN SECRETARY SHAHI'S STATEMENT
IN GENEVA AT DISARMAMENT MEETING; AND PLANNED TRIPS BY TWO
OFFICIALS IN NEXT FEW DAYS TO SEVERAL WORLD CAPITALS. SECONDARY
FOCUS HAS BEEN ON HOSTILE REACTIONS FROM THIRD COUNTRIES
AND FOREIGN PRESS. ASIDE FROM TELEVISED INTERVIEW WITH
CHAIRMAN OF PAKISTAN ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION (EMTEL 4961),
NO FURTHER SPECIFIC EFFORT HAS BEEN UNDERTAKEN TO REASSURE
DOMESTIC PUBLIC OPINION.

2. SEVERAL THEMES HAVE EMERGED IN EDITORIAL REACTION:
NUCLEAR POWERS HAVE RESPONSIBILITY TO PROVIDE NUCLEAR
UMBRELLA TO NON-NUCLEAR STATES; GOI HAS FLOUTED INTER-
NATIONAL AGREEMENTS AND WASTED SCARCE RESOURCES OTHER
ALLOCATED TO ESSENTIAL ECONOMIC PROGRAMS; EXPLOSION REVEALING
INDIAN LONG-RANGE INTENTIONS TO SEEK SUPREMACY IN SOUTH ASIA
AND OF INDIAN BELLICOSITY DESPITE PROTESTATIONS TO THE
CONTRARY; WORLD COMMUNITY SHOULD EMBARGO FURTHER NUCLEAR
ASSISTANCE TO INDIA AND AFRO-ASIAN STATES SHOULD STAND
UNITED IN CONDEMNATION OF GOI; AND GOP WILL NOT SUCCEED
TO GOI NUCLEAR BLAST MAIL. SOME VERNACULAR PAPERS SUGGESTED
THAT GOP SHOULD ALSO EMBARK ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS PROGRAM
REGARDLESS OF COST.

3. MFA OFFICIALS WITH WHOM WE HAVE DISCUSSED MATTER ARE
CATEGORICAL IN ASSERTING THAT GOP HAS NO RPT NO INTENTION
OF GOING NUCLEAR. IT APPEARS THAT GOP FOR TIME BEING IS
HINDERING ON DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS TO SECURE SOME TYPE OF
NUCLEAR UMBRELLA GUARANTEE FROM US AND OTHER NUCLEAR POWERS.
WE UNDERSTAND THAT LETTERS BEING SENT BY PRIME MINISTER TO
NUCLEAR POWERS, SWEDEN AND POSSIBLY OTHER STATES MAKE SUCH
A REQUEST. MFA OFFICIALS OUTSPOKEN IN CONDEMNING INDIAN
NUCLEAR BLAST AND IN THEIR SUSPICIONS AS TO GOI LONG-
RANGE PLANS VIS-A-VIS PAKISTAN. PRESS MAY 24 CARRIED
RETURNERS REPORT FROM NEW DELHI THAT MRS. GANDHI HAS WRITTEN
BHUTTO REITERATING INDIA'S COMMITMENT TO SIMLA AGREEMENT
PROVISION ON BILATERAL RESOLUTION OF INDO-PAKISTAN PROBLEMS
AND REASSURING HIM OF GOI'S PEACEFUL INTENTIONS IN CON-
DUCTING MAY 18 EXPLOSION.

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